

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NSC-05 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3959
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INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS
CINCLANT NORFOLK VA
USLOSACLANT NORFOLK VA
USNMR SHAPE BE
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

C O N F I D E N T I A L NATO 04525

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MPOL, NATO
SUBJECT: NATO INITIATIVES; BILATERALS JUNE 1

REF: (A) USNATO 4238 (DTG 271758Z MAY 77), (B) USNATO 4239
(DTG 271813Z MAY 77)

1. AMBASSADOR, DCM AND DEFENSE ADVISOR VISITED THEIR
COUNTERPARTS FROM SEVEN NATO DELEGATIONS (BELGIUM,
CANADA, DENMARK, FRG, NETHERLANDS, NORWAY AND TURKEY),
AND THE CHAIRMAN OF THE MILITARY COMMITTEE JUNE 1, IN
ADVANCE OF JUNE 3 DPC, TO DISCUSS PRELIMINARY NATIONAL
REACTIONS TO SYG LUNS' PO/77/86 ON THE NATO LONG-TERM
PROGRAM AND SHORT-TERM MEASURES (REF A). ALL DELEGATIONS
EXCEPT NORWAY ARE UNINSTRUCTED AS YET.

2. WITH A FEW RESERVATIONS, DELEGATIONS BELIEVE THE NINE
PROGRAM AREAS LISTED IN THE PO FOR LONG-TERM WORK ARE
CORRECT ONES. THE FRG MAY WANT TO SEE AN AREA ON INTEL-
LIGENCE GATHERING ADDED. THE DUTCH TOLD US THAT THE
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PRELIMINARY VIEW OF THE HAGUE IS THAT THERE ARE TOO
MANY PROGRAMS AND THAT THE LIST SHOULD BE CUT DOWN
SOMEWHAT. THEY SUGGESTED, HOWEVER, THAT THIS CONCERN
COULD BE DEFLECTED IF LUNS WERE TO PROPOSE AT THE DPC
THAT SOME REFINEMENTS OR PRIORITIZATION WITH THE
PROGRAMS MIGHT HAVE TO BE CONSIDERED AS WORK
PROGRESSES. WE WILL SUGGEST THAT LUNS ALLUDE TO THIS

QUALIFICATION IN HIS OPENING REMARKS AT THE DPC MEETING, WHILE ENDORSING THE NINE PROGRAM AREAS CONTAINED IN SECRETARY BROWN'S STATEMENT AND IN PO/77/86. WE BELIEVE THIS MIGHT ALSO HELP DEFLECT CONCERNS THAT OTHER NATIONS MIGHT HAVE ON THE NUMBER OF PROGRAM AREAS.

3. ALL DELEGATIONS, AS WELL AS THE CHAIRMAN OF THE MILITARY COMMITTEE, GENERALLY ACKNOWLEDGE THE NEED FOR MOVING OUT SMARTLY ON THE LONG-TERM PROGRAM, AND APPEAR TO AGREE WITH THE DESIRABILITY OF AVOIDING A NIT-PICKING EXERCISE AT THE JUNE 3 DPC. GENERAL ZEINER GUNDERSEN EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT THE APPROACH SUGGESTED BY PARAGRAPH 9 OF PO/77/86 WOULD NOT SECURE THE BEST POSSIBLE MILITARY ADVICE. HE SUGGESTED THAT NEXT SPRING TASK FORCE DIRECTORS REPORT THEIR PROGRAMS TO THE MILITARY COMMITTEE FOR FORMAL COMMENT, AND SAID THAT THE COMPREHENSIVE REPORT ITSELF SHOULD BE THE OBJECT OF FORMAL MILITARY COMMITTEE REVIEW. ZEINER GUNDERSEN ADDED THAT HE PLANS TO DISCUSS THIS WITH SYG LUNS AND TO SEND HIM A CHAIRMAN'S MEMO ON THE SUBJECT. THE AMBASSADOR TOLD ZEINER GUNDERSEN THAT THE DPC WILL WANT THE VIEW OF THE MILITARY COMMITTEE AND THAT WE COULD PROBABLY SUPPORT THE APPROACH HE SUGGESTED, PROVIDED THAT IT WOULD NOT SLOW THINGS DOWN. COMMENT: WE CONTINUE TO BELIEVE (REF B) THAT TASK FORCE DIRECTORS SHOULD REPORT SIMULTANEOUSLY TO THE EWG AND THE MILITARY COMMITTEE WITH THEIR INDIVIDUAL PROGRAMS. THIS WOULD PERMIT STAFFING TO PROCEED IN PARALLEL, AND ALLOW FOR FORMAL EXPRESSIONS OF THE MC VIEWPOINT EITHER IN THE CONFIDENTIAL

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DPC OR EWG OR BOTH. END COMMENT.

4. WE PLAN TO COMPLETE THIS ROUND OF BILATERAL CONTACTS WITH SYG LUNS, UK PERMREP KILLICK, AND ITALIAN DEFENSE ADVISOR PRIOR TO JUNE 3 DPC.

5. WE ARE PLACING STRESS IN OUR CONVERSATIONS ON OPPORTUNITY CREATED FOR NATO TO SHOW WHAT IT CAN DO AND IMPORTANCE THAT WE GET INTO JOB WITHOUT DELAY. BENNETT

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